

Passing through numerous channels, the passage seems so intricate that we wonder how the pilot finds the way, but in due time we catch the first glimpse of Mokpo. The little ship anchors a little distance from the local church. All is gladness and good cheer and "sampan," and we are received and taken ashore with joyful welcome. The schoolboys, with their teachers, are there to give welcome to the visitors. Near at hand are the officers and leading Korean workers of the local church. All is gladness and good cheer and we have arrived in Korea, and are on our mission field.

Our Territory.

The field assigned to the Southern Presbyterian Church in Korea is the southwestern section of the peninsula, a very choice part of the country. Our four mission stations are Mokpo, Kwangju, Kunsan and Chunju. Mokpo is a port city of importance. Kwangju is the nearest station to Mokpo. The trip is made in a little Japanese launch going up the river some twenty-five miles from Mokpo to Yungpo. A good road has been constructed by the Japanese from Yung-



KOREAN GENTLEMAN AND WIFE.

po to Kwangju, another twenty-five miles across the level plain of rice fields, and then into hills and mountains, from valley to valley, and in sight of villages almost without number. From one point I counted twenty-seven. The general direction of Kwangju from Mokpo is a little north of east. From Kwangju to Chunju is a horseback or chair ride for the ladies, of about seventy miles. This is a conservative, historical town and one of great importance from the missionary point of view. It is beautifully situated in the mountains. Our fourth station is Kunsan, a little northeast of Chunju. Our mission is not located in the town, but in the village of Kunmal, about two miles from the city. This is a port town and has, as in all port cities, a Japanese and Korean section. The trip from Chunju to Kunsan is made over the fine road built by the Japanese. Notice the location of our four mission stations: Mokpo, then generally east to Kwangju, north to Chunju, and west to Kunsan. It will be seen that we completely occupy the southwestern part of Korea, a splendid country with a fine

people, and a missionary work that should make us grateful that, in the providence of God, it has been assigned to our Southern Presbyterian Church.

The Work at the Station.

At Mokpo we have a flourishing church with a growing membership. The church was enlarged, but already it is impossible to accommodate the congregations, and further enlargement will be absolutely necessary. The officers of the church are faithful and devout Christian men. The work among the women is greatly blessed. The John Watson Academy is an excellent school. The school building, the best I saw in Korea, is a well built, conveniently arranged stone structure. The girls' school is in great need of a building. It seems impossible that so much could have been done in the inadequate and badly located Korean house in which the school has been conducted. In the dispensary there is a fine work being done.

At Kwangju we have a flourishing church with a building altogether too small to accommodate the congregations. There is a good Sunday-school. The bookroom adjoining the church is the center for the distribution of religious literature. The boys' school is doing well—as well as is possible with the meager facilities. There is also a small girls' school. The dispensary is visited by as many patients as can possibly be treated. There are no hospital facilities.

At Chunju we have a good church with a large and increasing membership. The Sunday-school, Bible Training Classes, and other work are all prosperous. The boys' school is doing splendidly, as may be said also of the girls' school. The new buildings in process of erection for these two schools will add immeasurably to the educational work. Until recently there has been a very large work in connection with the dispensary, which has been temporarily discontinued, there being no doctor at Chunju.

The work at Kunsan is, in general, much like the work at the other stations. The village church, though not large as a building, is the center of religious activity. The Frances Bridges Memorial Hospital and Dispensary is one of the most useful agencies we have in Korea. Dr. Oh, a Korean physician, educated in the United States, is in charge of the work in the absence of Dr. Daniel, who has been at home for a surgical operation. There is a boys' and also a girls' school in which fine work is being done, notwithstanding the limited quarters.

In the above sketches of the stations mention has not been made of what is our largest work in Korea, i. e., that of the out-stations. Our missionaries divide up the territory in districts, radiating out from the station. The most interesting part of the visit to Korea was the time spent with the brethren in the out-station work. Village after village was visited. Delegations from schools and churches came out to meet us, sometimes miles away from the village. The churches were crowded to overflowing with people, most of them Christians. The preaching, with a missionary as interpreter, was listened to with an interest that was most gratifying. The travel on horseback, through valleys on the paths dividing the little rice fields, and over the picturesque mountain passes was so exhilarating to the spirit that bodily weariness was almost forgotten.